

P A T E N T

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
 Dworschak et al.)
 Application No.:)
 Filed: Herewith)
 For: **SCISSORS, IN PARTICULAR, FOR SURGICAL PURPOSES**

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail (No. EV 129898171 US) addressed to MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 22, 2004.

By:

Carol Prentice
 Carol Prentice

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references:

U.S. PATENTS:

| <u>Patent No.</u> | <u>Patentee</u> | <u>Date of Issue</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 3,052,026 | Muller | Sep 04, 1962 |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS:

| <u>Country</u> | <u>No.</u> | <u>Date of Publication</u> |
|----------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Germany | 199 08 367 | Mar 30, 2000 |
| Germany | 197 33 035 | Feb 18, 1999 |
| Germany | 297 13 631 | Nov 13, 1997 |
| Germany | 32 19 260 | Nov 24, 1983 |

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The references listed above were cited by the International Examiner in the Search Report (copy enclosed) of Applicants' counterpart international patent application no. PCT/EP02/08389 (MPEP §2001.06(a)).

English language abstracts are attached to DE 199 08 367, DE 197 33 035 and DE 32 19 260.

OTHER FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS:

| <u>Country</u> | <u>No.</u> | <u>Date of Publication</u> |
|----------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Germany | 848 165 | Sep 01, 1952 |

The reference listed above was cited by the German Examiner in Applicants' corresponding German patent application 101 38 356.8 (MPEP §2001.06(a)).

Copies of the above-listed foreign references are enclosed, together with a completed form PTO-1449.

Consideration of these references by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to

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Dworschak et al.
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antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: January 22, 2004
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: HOE-796

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FORM PTO-1449

ATTY. DOCKET NO.: HOE-796

SERIAL NO.:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

APPLICANT(S): Dworschak et al.

FILING DATE: Herewith

GROUP:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB- CLASS | FILING DATE |
|---------------------|----|-----------------|------------|--------|-------|---------------|----------------|
| | AA | 3,052,026 | 09/04/1962 | Muller | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB- CLASS | TRANS- LATION YES NO |
|--|----|--------------------|------------|---------|-------|---------------|----------------------------|
| | AB | 199 08 367 | 03/30/2000 | Germany | | | |
| | AC | 197 33 035 | 02/18/1999 | Germany | | | |
| | AD | 297 13 631 | 11/13/1997 | Germany | | | |
| | AE | 32 19 260 | 11/24/1983 | Germany | | | |
| | AF | 848 165 | 09/01/1952 | Germany | | | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.